

## BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
METROP. COUNTIES. [Ordinary Meeting.]	37, Soho Sq., London.	Tues. May 8, 4 P.M.
YORKSHIRE. [Annual Meeting.]	Infirmiry, Leeds.	Thurs., May 10, 1 P.M.

## NEWS AND TOPICS OF THE DAY.

## APPOINTMENTS.

[\*An asterisk is prefixed to the names of Members of the Association.]

- \*HEATH, Ashton M., Esq., elected Dispensary Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, on 26th April.  
 JACOB, Edward Long, Esq., elected House Surgeon and Secretary to the Hampshire County Hospital, on 17th April, in the room of J. L. Jardine, Esq., resigned.  
 \*LUND, Edward, M.D., elected Dispensary Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, on 26th April.  
 ROWE, Thomas Smith, M.D., elected House Surgeon to the Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary, Margate, on 11th April.  
 SEGAR, John, M.D., elected House Surgeon to the Bolton Infirmary and Dispensary, on 19th April.

## OBITUARY.

[\*An asterisk is prefixed to names of Members of the Association.]

- BARRY, Martin, M.D., F.R.S., at Beccles, Suffolk, aged 53, on April 27th.  
 \*HAMILTON, Henry, Esq., at Laugharne, Carmarthenshire, on April 25th.

## PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. The following gentlemen having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on April 23rd:—

- ATWELL, James Buckley Falconer, Wilmington Square, Pentonville  
 DALLEY, William Charles, Lyston, Leicestershire  
 FITZGERALD, John, Tipperary  
 JONES, Edwin, Rhyl, Flintshire  
 LEAMON, Michael Tout, Tavistock, Devonshire  
 McDOWALL, Cameron Joseph Francis, Army  
 PENHALL, John Thomas, H.F.I.C.S., Madras  
 PROPERT, John Lumsden, New Cavendish Street  
 SAVILLE, George Townsend, Driffield, Yorkshire  
 Friday, April 27th:—  
 BLETCHLY, Edmund, Ashley Crescent, City Road  
 CAPRON, Edward, Guildford, Surrey  
 FERGUSON, Charles, Army  
 HEATHCOTE, Godfrey, Army  
 LEVER, John, Army  
 LOWNDS, James Richard, Newcastle-on-Tyne  
 PROCTER, James Cooper, Lydd, Kent  
 SHOOLBRAIN, John, Army  
 WALES, Thomas Garneys, Downham, Norfolk  
 At the same meeting of the Court:—  
 CREIGHTON, Robert, of Her Majesty's ship *Trafalgar*, passed his examination for Naval Surgeon: this gentleman had previously been admitted a member of the College, his diploma bearing date May 18th, 1849

APOTHECARIES' HALL. MEMBERS admitted on Thursday, April 26th, 1855:—

- ADAMSON, Alexander Rattray, Cupar, Fife, N.B.  
 BADER, Charles, Germany  
 BEST, Henry Dewes, Bilston, Staffordshire  
 BLAND, Edward, Denbighshire  
 FARRAR, Charles, Chatteris  
 HEMINGWAY, Charles Alfred, Dewsbury  
 LANGDON, Henry William, Chard  
 PIERPOINT, Nathaniel Bradford, London  
 SULLIVAN, Edward Whittington, Great Ilford, Essex  
 WHALLEY, Thompson, Holbeck, Leeds

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING  
APRIL 28TH, 1855.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

In the week that ended on Saturday, the number of deaths registered in London was 1,132. This is rather more than the number of the previous week; but the last two returns together afford sufficient proof that the public health is advancing to a more satisfactory state. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number of deaths was 1,006. That the actual number may be compared with the average 100 should be added to the latter, to allow for increased population; and the comparison will then show that the mortality of last week did not much exceed the ordinary mortality at the end of April.

Diseases of the respiratory organs grow less prevalent and fatal, and to this circumstance chiefly the decrease of the total mortality is owing. Excluding phthisis and whooping-cough, that class of diseases which, when the weather was cold, caused 433 deaths in a week, produced, in the last three weeks, 282, 222, and 190, showing a steady decrease. Phthisis was fatal in 176 cases last week, a number as great as that which usually occurred in the depth of winter. Whooping-cough, which carried off 50 children in each of the two last weeks, prevails less than it did. The mortality from zymotic diseases, in the aggregate, is near the usual amount; 30 deaths are referred to small-pox; 15 to measles; 45 to scarlatina. Five from the last-mentioned disease occurred in Woolwich, 3 in Peckham, and 3 in Kensington.

Last week the births of 892 boys and 864 girls, in all 1,756 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 1,495.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 30.140 in. The mean reading was above 30 in. on every day except Saturday. At the beginning of the week the highest reading occurred, and was 30.40 in. The mean temperature of the week was 44 deg., which is 4.5 deg. below the average of the same week in 38 years. The mean temperature was below the average on every day except Tuesday, when it hardly exceeded the average. The coldest day was on Sunday (the 22nd), when the mean temperature was 39.9 deg., which was 7.6 deg. below the average; and the lowest temperature occurred on that day, and was 29.6 deg. The highest temperature in the week was 68.0 deg., and occurred on Tuesday, and the lowest on the same day was 29.7 deg., nearly the lowest in the week, and showing a range of 38.3 deg. The mean dew-point temperature was 37.3 deg., and the difference between this and the mean temperature of the air was 6.7 deg. The wind blew from the north and north-east; and no rain fell, except a slight shower on the morning of Saturday. On that day the temperature of the air was 58 deg. at noon, and fell 10 deg. by three o'clock.

ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL:—REPORT OF  
COMMITTEE.

[Continued from page 406.]

*Evidence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, K.G.*

H.R.H. the Duke of CAMBRIDGE commanded the first division. He joined the army of the East on May 10th, 1854. He found the troops encamped at Scutari in perfectly good order, and healthy. The division proceeded to Varna on the 13th of June, in good health. At Varna the troops never actually wanted provisions, but still the supply was scarcely so good as could have been wished. The first division moved to Aladyn on July 1st, and encamped on high ground, from a quarter to half a mile from the water. The first case of sickness (cholera) broke out on about the 17th of July. The witness thought the division was then short of medical men; but that was because the medical men fell ill almost immediately. They went with one surgeon and two assistant-surgeons to each regiment, but he thought they ought to have had—as they subsequently had—three assistant-surgeons. The want was not felt until the cholera broke out, and there was then so much difficulty in all the divisions that no application was made. At Varna there was, on the whole, no deficiency of medicines. As soon as the sickness broke out, the Duke of Cambridge took steps, with the concurrence of Lord Raglan, to remove the encampment; and it was accordingly removed, on July 27th, from Aladyn to a place called Gevrieker, about six miles distant, on the top of the hills, a long way from the lake. At Aladyn, the water supply consisted in a small running stream that ran into the lake, and the lake water for the horses; at Gevrieker, there were wells.

The sickness did not diminish from the change of position; it rather increased. The division embarked for the Crimea on the 3rd of August: a great part of it was very sickly. The whole strength of the Guards in Bulgaria was about 8,000 men, besides which there were in the division a brigade of Highlanders and two brigades of artillery. The Duke of Cambridge stated that as many as 170 of the Guards died in Bulgaria; he had not the returns as to the Highlanders. He attributed the sickness to the climate; but he attributed the greater mortality in the Guards to the fact that they had been more accustomed to porter and that kind of beverage than the regiments of the line. Porter was served out to the men at Scutari and at Varna, never afterwards. The sickness broke out after it ceased to be supplied. His Royal Highness represented, having heard that a supply of porter had been sent from England, that the Guards were very anxious to have this beverage; but the answer was, that the whole of the army could not be supplied, and it was thought not advisable to make an exception in favour of any special corps. There was no deficiency of medicines. Several men died on board ship in the passage from Varna to the Crimea. From the time of landing at the Old Fort till the 4th of October, there were a few isolated cases of cholera; but the disease did not seriously break out again until the division arrived at Balaklava.

The witness had heard that, before the formation of an encampment in Bulgaria, there had been reports from medical men on the sanitary state of the province; but whether these reports were favourable or unfavourable, he could not say. He had heard that there had been allusions made as to the probability of disease near the lake; but certainly this was not at all spoken of until sickness had commenced. Cholera first appeared, he thought, in the light division at Devuo. The cholera was known at that time to be raging to the eastward; but no particular instructions were sent out on the subject of diet. An order came that the men were not to be drilled after eight in the morning, as it was too hot. This was immediately after the outbreak of cholera, if not before. The tents used to be struck two or three times a week, to purify the air. The first division, even up to a very late period, had never been without rations, with the exception of now and then that they were a little short of rum; but they always had their biscuit and meat. The Duke attributed this both to the care and circumspection of the officers, and to the energy and correct behaviour of the commissariat. He was very well served by the commissaries of his division; they were particularly good men; they were young, and at first, perhaps, they wanted experience; but they were extremely zealous and attentive, and, whenever no difficulties in the department were made, they carried out his wishes and instructions to the letter. He thought that forms of the commissariat department are not suited to operations in the field. He thought some of them threw difficulties in the way, instead of making everything easy. He would give an instance that happened at Varna. His division moved to Aladyn; he himself remained some few days behind; and, as there were some ammunition horses that had not been duly equipped, and because he had his own tents there, a company was left behind in charge. He was very anxious to get those men properly rationed, and he desired the officer commanding to get the ration from the head-quarters commissariat; and the first day that he sent in, though the men were in want of their daily ration, instead of sending out the ration at once, they sent the printed form of the office to fill up; and the consequence was, that there was a very long delay. Not satisfied with that, the officer was supposed to have put one or two horses too many down in this return for himself; and, instead of sending the return back, and saying, "This is incorrect, and here are the rations for the men, but you must alter the return," they would not send the rations at all, and kept the men without, but sent back to say that they could not have them, because there was a fault in the return. This was at Varna; and upon that the officer, who acted most properly, came to His Royal Highness, and he desired him at once to go in with the animals to bring the rations out, and to get the whole thing put to rights; and they did get them that day, but very late. He conceived that they ought to have had them at first, whether there was a flaw in the return or not. As it turned out, this commissariat officer was wrong, and the officer was right, and there was no mistake in the return at all. The witness did not recollect so many difficulties in the Crimea. He recollected speaking to the commissariat officer upon the subject: he named it, he thought, to Mr. Commissary Filder; who did not seem to take much notice of it. His Royal Highness agreed entirely with an opinion expressed by Sir De Lacy Evans, that it would be advantageous if the

commissariat were a military instead of a civil department. Soft bread was regularly issued to the troops in Bulgaria. It was thought bad by the men, and the Duke of Cambridge did not like it: it did not agree with him; but he could not say it was bad. He thought, but was not certain, that the French bread was best: the French baked it themselves. In Bulgaria, there was an irregular supply of rice; the division was pretty well supplied with fresh meat. When before Sebastopol, they had fresh meat three times a week up to about the middle of October; afterwards, they had almost always salt meat, and no vegetables. This, the Duke considered, was one cause of sickness. If there had been vegetables and more rice the men would not have become so unhealthily. He believed that the reason why there was not an abundant supply of rice was, that it is not the ordinary soldier's ration, and had not been provided for. There was time to have made large purchases between the time of being in Bulgaria and the period of being in the Crimea. That rice was very essential to the health of the troops, on account of the quantity of salt food, was represented by the medical officers of the army: and the witness reported it himself. He thought it desirable to keep up, if possible, three days supply of provision in his division; but he did not think there ever were three days supply before Sebastopol. He desired his commissary to apply to the head of his department (Mr. Filder); but the reply was, that his wishes could not be complied with. Mr. Commissary Filder never made any communication to His Royal Highness as to the sufficiency of the supplies of provisions, or the mode in which they were served. The witness knew that the supply of green coffee was objectionable. The green coffee was first heard of in Bulgaria; and the Duke, for one, regretted that green coffee had ever been issued. It was his opinion that they would have done better if they had had cocoa; but the men objected to cocoa, and a Board was established to inquire into it in Bulgaria, and that Board settled that they were to give in to the dislike that the men had as to cocoa, and that they were to have coffee. But the witness believed the men objected to the cocoa because they wanted tea; and the supply of tea was found to be difficult, and therefore they got coffee instead.

The Duke of Cambridge stated that there could not be two opinions as to the troops under his command at Sebastopol having been very much overworked. He conceived that the men were worked to that degree that no men could stand it without being seriously affected in their health by it. To some extent, the overwork must have arisen from the want of roads and baggage animals; because they often had to carry up things which ought to have been brought to them. He had made direct representation that the men were overworked. As an instance of the effect of overwork, he mentioned that the brigade of Guards was on the heights before Sebastopol; after the 25th October, the day of the battle of Balaklava, the whole of the Highland brigade was concentrated at Balaklava, and that brigade, he had reason to know, suffered less in comparison with the brigade of Guards; and the reason why, he conceived, they did not suffer, was, amongst others (for they certainly had facilities of getting supplies), that the men of the Highland brigade were not half so much worked as those of the Guards. After the battle of Inkermann, the army was (he understood) about 13,500 men, bayonets; he meant duty men. After the battle of Inkermann, they had to do exactly the same amount of work in the trenches and in picket duty. If there had been a reserve stationed nearer Constantinople, or in the Mediterranean, and it had been possible, from the means of transport at the disposal of the English government, to have thrown in some 8,000 or 10,000 men in a fortnight or three weeks, a great portion of this sickness from overwork might most unquestionably have been prevented.

As far as a standing camp could be kept clean, that of the first division was kept as clean as it could be. After the battle of Inkermann, however, there was a considerable change, because there were many dead horses about which had to be removed: these were chiefly near the camp of the second division.

After the battle of the Alma, His Royal Highness believed that, with very few exceptions, every wounded man of his division was got into a field hospital that evening. He thought the ambulances a great deal too heavy, and very inconveniently built; that they were much too close, and that the men suffered dreadfully from being pushed into a place like a coffin. The division, however, managed to use them. The sick were generally conveyed to Balaklava in ambulance carts, of which there were two attached to the division. They were also carried in the arabas of the Commissariat when they went for provisions;

but after the battle of Inkermann they were assisted by the animals of the French. The army was not entirely dependant on the French mules for transport while the Duke was in the Crimea.

After the battle of the Alma, the number of medical men attending the division was about 16 or 18. The witness thought that every regiment ranging from 850 to 1000 men ought to have at least four medical officers fit for duty. He attributed the want to the deficiency of military medical officers in England. Several were attached to the infantry, that belonged to the cavalry regiments at home. From the general medical staff, His Royal Highness had a deputy inspector of hospitals, a staff surgeon of the first class, a staff surgeon of the second class, and three assistant surgeons. The medical men were very efficient indeed.

The witness had heard that there was a considerable deficiency of medicines after he left the Crimea; while he was there there were very large requisitions, and certainly there was not the supply he could have wished; but there was no actual want of medicines.

The men in the hospital tents were not very comfortable; but the Duke thought they were made as comfortable as they could be made under the circumstances. He did not think they had more than one blanket until just before he left. It would have been very desirable if there had been Macintosh sheeting in the tents. No huts had arrived before he left; no requisition was made for huts, that he knew of. He himself constantly visited the hospital tents, and he believed General Bentinck used to go there. He never saw any of the head-quarter staff there. The hospital tents were in general in sufficient number; but not when the troops were sickly, as at Aladyn and Gevlecker, and in the Crimea. Once or twice more tents were asked for, but none could be got.

#### *Evidence of Lieut.-Colonel Charles T. Wilson.*

Lieut.-Col. WILSON belonged to the Coldstream Guards. His evidence referred to the points touched on by the Duke of Cambridge, and was generally confirmatory of that given by his Royal Highness.

#### *Evidence of Captain Alexander T. Blakeley.*

Captain BLAKELEY went to the army of the East to offer his services. He was at Gallipoli when the army arrived there. There was abundance of provisions in the country, but now and then a little shortness of rations, because the commissariat officers had no returns made to them of the strength of the regiments. He subsequently returned to England, and was in the Crimea during the last fortnight in December. The troops were wretchedly clothed, and looked half-starved.

#### *Evidence of Captain John Shakespear.*

Captain SHAKESPEAR was an officer of the Horse Artillery. He left England on the 4th of June last year, and returned on the 30th of January in the present year. While the troop was in Bulgaria, there were sufficient supplies of food both for men and horses. In the Crimea, the Artillery were in a more satisfactory condition as regards supplies of food, clothing, etc., than the rest of the army. The clothing of the Artillery is supplied from the Ordnance, and is not included in the Army Estimates. The commissariat department is also distinct from that of the army. There was only one assistant-surgeon attached to the troop (165 men): the supply of medicines was not sufficient. About six or eight men died in Bulgaria from cholera, dysentery, and fever; and when the army left for the Crimea, about twenty-five men of the Horse Artillery were disabled by sickness.

#### *Evidence of J. Crowe, Esq.*

Mr. CROWE arrived in the Crimea on the 25th September, and left on the 3rd February. He was not there in any official capacity. His evidence was corroborative of that of previous witnesses as to the deficiency of clothing among the troops, and the accommodation for the sick and wounded in the hospital tents and at Balaklava.

#### *Evidence of Captain Adam Kellock.*

Captain KELLOCK was in command of the *Himalaya*, a screw steamer, used as a transport for troops. On one occasion, he took a number of "convalescents" from Scutari to the Crimea; they were so ill, however, that twenty-five or thirty had to be sent back in a boat to Scutari.

#### *Evidence of Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. Sparks.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SPARKS was in the 38th Regiment. He gave evidence as to the overwork and its effects, confirmatory of the evidence previously given.

#### *Evidence of Sergeant Thomas Dawson.*

Sergeant DAWSON belonged to the Grenadier Guards. He went out at the latter end of June, with the first draft, and joined the regiment at Aladyn. There were upwards of 1,000 men in the regiment at that time. Sickness had broken out in the regiment: two men who went out with the witness died two days after arrival. The disease prevailing was termed diarrhoea among the men.

The tents were pitched in a wood, with brushwood round them; the brushwood was cut down, and the tents were pitched in the open space. There was no pass. Fourteen or fifteen men lived in one tent. It was very close in the tents during the day. The men made huts of the brushwood outside, to be in in the day for a shade: these were much cooler than the tents. The tents used to be ventilated by turning the bottom part up in the morning, so as to admit the air. They were very hot inside during the night. The men were obliged to have the tent door open all night through; in wet weather, they were obliged to close the tent up, and the atmosphere was past bearing sometimes, especially if one came in after having gone outside. They remained on the same ground about a fortnight at a time; but they struck the tents, and moved the bottom part of them.

The regiment generally had fresh meat in Bulgaria. They had vegetables when they could procure them: but it was difficult to get vegetables at all. They had sometimes tea, and sometimes coffee. The men preferred the tea. They had tea generally in Bulgaria. The coffee was green: the men had first to roast it, and then grind it between two stones. They had to use the lids of the mess kettles to roast the coffee in. When the regiment arrived in the Crimea, and encamped near Balaklava for a week, they were then better supplied with vegetables. After that, they encamped on the heights; and there the supply of provisions was pretty good, the only complaint the witness heard being as to the green coffee. In the march to Balaklava, after the battle of the Alma, there was a scarcity of water. There were gardens and vineyards in the ground passed through; and the men were allowed to eat the fruit. The Duke of Cambridge, however, cautioned the men against eating too much fruit.

The witness had been engaged in trench duty. After the trenches were open, they could not get a whole night in the tent during the week. Twelve hours was the outside they got in the tent. The witness illustrated the amount of overwork by stating that the men might be on picket this morning at half-past three; they came off the following morning at half-past four; half the men, before they could get breakfast, would have to take picks and shovels, and work in the trenches till dinner-time; another party from then till evening; then, in the evening, very likely three parts of those men would have to go on covering parties in the trenches, to cover the troops during the night. The witness referred to an instance in which men, after having been on duty in the trenches twenty-four hours, came home at 11 o'clock at night; he was sergeant-in-waiting of the company, and had to warn twenty of those men for outlying picket at half-past three the next morning.

In the flank march, after the battle of the Alma, many men were taken sick: the witness ascribed this to the stocks and tight chest. The stocks had been ordered to be taken off when the regiment was at Scutari, before it went to the Crimea: but the generality of the men still wore them; they had only been cut down.

The clothing of the regiment was getting very bad when the witness left. On arriving in the Crimea, many of the men had no soles to their shoes; and the clothing was very ragged. The men had no dark trousers; only the white ones.

The witness was wounded in the left arm, by a musket-shot which fractured the bone, at the battle of Inkermann. His arm was amputated the same evening; and he was taken down in an English ambulance to Balaklava. He suffered much in going down: he was obliged to hold with his right hand, and to keep himself as much to one side as possible, to keep his shoulder from being jolted against the other side. He considered it much easier to ride on the mules than in the ambulance carts, particularly if the men are in much pain.

#### *Evidence of the Right Hon. the Earl of Cardigan.*

The Earl of CARDIGAN commanded the Light Brigade of Cavalry. While the brigade was encamped at Devna in Bulgaria, on high ground, it was very healthy; much more so than the infantry quartered on the other side of the river, also on high ground. Only ten men in the brigade died of cholera.

The meat was generally fresh; the bread (soft bread) was at first occasionally bad, but was afterwards improved, on representation being made. In the Crimea the men generally had fresh meat, up to the 8th December, when the witness left the army. The state of the men in the hospital tents was very bad: the witness corroborated the previous accounts. When he left, much of the clothing of the brigade was worn out.

*Evidence of John C. Macdonald, Esq.*

Mr. MACDONALD went out to administer the fund which was collected in this country for the relief of the sick and wounded in the East. He arrived at Scutari upon the 6th November. He went on to the Crimea on the 1st February, and left on the 9th. Before he went out, he saw the Duke of Newcastle, and Dr. Andrew Smith. He was told that it was not likely that a fund of that kind would be found of any use in the relief of the sick and wounded. Accounts had reached this country of the want of supplies and provision of all kinds for the relief of the sick and wounded, in the treatment of them; those statements were doubted by the Duke of Newcastle and Dr. Andrew Smith—at least, they questioned the accuracy of the statements; but they said that even admitting that wants of that kind existed, they would long ago have ceased; and that before Mr. Macdonald's arrival there would be no necessity for the administration of a fund of that kind. The Duke of Newcastle said that the ambassador at Constantinople had full power to obtain every thing that was necessary. Dr. Smith did not state upon what his opinion was grounded; but he expressed his confident conviction that even if wants existed they had long ceased. He seemed to admit that there had been an omission with reference to the transmission of supplies, that had been previously carried to Varna, and which ought to have been brought back again to Scutari.

When Mr. Macdonald arrived at Scutari, he put himself in communication with the medical authorities. He had a letter of introduction from Dr. Smith to Dr. Cumming, given under the impression that Dr. Cumming was to be the Inspector-General. The witness also introduced himself to Dr. Menzies, who afforded him no facilities for the proper distribution of the *Times*' fund; though he did not offer any obstruction. Mr. Macdonald was told by Dr. Menzies that nothing was wanted. There was, however, a want of utensils of all kinds, the means of personal cleanliness, etc. The wants of the hospital fluctuated from time to time. When a ship arrived bringing any particular kind of stores, they were in abundance for a period; and when the supply ran out, there were no means of reinstating the thing that was wanted. The witness did not know what the number of patients was in the respective hospitals, and on board those ships, at the time of his arrival. There were no returns of any kind prepared at that time; everything relating to the statistics of the medical establishments was, more or less, in a state of confusion; there were not even returns of the deaths on board ship; and the returns of the deaths in the hospitals themselves were inaccurately given; as to a very large proportion of the deaths which took place in the army at that time, from sickness and from wounds, after leaving the Crimea, there remained no records; and the number of burials did not, almost to the last moment when he left, correspond with the number of deaths; even at Scutari the number returned of the deaths did not correspond with the actual number of burials. Dr. Menzies was at that time at the head of the medical establishment, and in superior charge of all the hospitals, at Scutari. He had a small staff, and a very inadequate staff, until the arrival of the *Vectis* from England with an increase of medical officers. She arrived, the witness thought, two days before he arrived—on the 3rd or 4th November.

The witness then stated to the Committee the condition in which he found each of the hospitals at Constantinople and Scutari; the condition with respect to the beds, with respect to conveniences of every description; and, generally speaking, with respect to the state of the patients. There were two hospitals established at Scutari: the general hospital, which had been built by the Turks as a hospital, and the barrack hospital, which had been originally intended for barracks. The general hospital, being originally intended as an hospital, presented a better appearance on the whole than the barrack hospital; it was quieter, and there was a repose about it; the majority of the bedsteads were there, and so far, the men were well provided for. The severe cases were principally treated at the outset at that general hospital; it was the intention to keep it for severe cases at first; but subsequently, the greater accommodations in the barrack hospital led to its becoming the place where the severest cases were. There were few patients from

other diseases in the general hospital. In both the hospitals the numbers at that period upon beds would be about one-third, and two-thirds on the floor. The two-thirds on the floor had a simple palliasse, with a piece of ordinary straw matting under it. They had blankets and sheets. He was not sure that all of them had sheets; he rather thought that some of them had not sheets, but that might have arisen from the men preferring the blankets. Upon the whole, in the general hospital, except with respect to the want of beds, the patients were tolerably well off. The witness thought that that hospital had always been kept less crowded than the other; many of the wards were dark and gloomy; but the great overcrowding held chiefly true with regard to the other hospital. They had orderlies. The numbers were originally one to every 10; but when the sickness increased, the proportion was increased also. Mr. Macdonald stated his opinion that the orderly system in our service is a very objectionable one in many respects. The orderlies sleep and eat in the wards; the result of which is, that if much infection exists in the wards, they become victims to it: they also have no specific training for the purpose; a man is selected for an orderly who does not fit well into the ranks, and who is an ugly or a clumsy fellow, and he is sent down to do duty among the sick. When the orderlies begin to learn something of their business, they are drafted off. Upon the whole, with respect to such means of accommodation as there were, with respect to the medical attendance, and with respect to the attention paid to the personal conveniences of the men in that one hospital, they were, under the circumstances, tolerably well off.

Very small provision had been made for converting the barrack hospital into an hospital at all. The sick occupied a series of wards, the flooring of which was open and rotten, and they lay upon the boards in situations where they could not obtain the necessary warmth. The ventilation of that hospital became worse afterwards, as the number of dysenteric cases increased. The construction of the hospital is an open quadrangle, round which run a series of corridors, with wards and small rooms adjoining. The corridors were occupied by patients, as well as the wards, and by double rows of patients; the result of which was that as the number of dysenteric patients increased, the emanations from them were carried into the wards adjoining, and into the rooms occupied by the surgeons and the officers. That hospital was in a state which admitted of very little hope, from the infectious character of the air, of the patients placed there becoming convalescent at the usual period at which one might expect patients to become convalescent in a good hospital. For some period a very large proportion indeed of the beds were on the ground, but by degrees there were boards and tressels constructed; and, after about a month or six weeks, nearly the whole of the patients were raised up in bedsteads. When the witness left, wooden sheds had been constructed in the centre of the quadrangle of the barrack hospital, blocking up the ventilation in that space. There was ample room about the hospital on which sheds might have been erected. At the time of Mr. Macdonald's arrival, there were from 1,500 to 1,800 in the supplemental hospital. The medical staff was too small considerably for the work, and there the chief pressure was felt until the arrival of the surgeons by the *Vectis*.

This hospital being a barrack also, with a canteen, there were no precautions against the admission of spirits into the hospitals. The sick seemed well partitioned off from those who were well; but there was no hindrance to free intercourse. The witness saw the soldiers' wives frequently among the sick. There were about 250 soldiers' wives and widows in the place, some with children, living in a state with which the worst lodging-houses in the metropolis, before the Lodging-Houses Act, presented a favourable comparison. Any attempt to organise these women into a corps of nurses would, the witness feared, have been impossible. He understood, before he left, that it was intended to erect a building of wood, capable of accommodating 2,000 men, to which were to be removed the barrack dépôt, and the women—unless, as ought to have been done long ago, they were all sent home.

There was a hospital which was called, the witness believed, the stable hospital, adjoining the barrack or supplementary hospital; there was the hospital of the Sultan's Spring Palace, beyond the general hospital; there was a hospital at Koolalee; there were two hospitals at Koolalee, one a hospital by construction, and the other a barrack converted to the uses of an hospital. The barrack hospital at Koolalee was in a very bad state; but that had been only recently organised. All these hospitals did not exist at the time of Mr. Macdonald's arrival in November. Those which existed were the general hospital

and the barrack hospital, and the two convalescent ships in the Golden Horn. In the two ships in the Golden Horn there were no beds for the men, with the exception of twenty-five in the sick bay, or in what was called the sick bay, of the Turkish convalescent hulk. One of the ships was called the *Turkish Convalescent Hulk*, and the other the *Bombay Convalescent Ship*. The Turkish hulk belonged to the Turkish government, and the Bombay transport was one of ours. The Turkish ship was lent to the English government for hospital purposes. The men in these ships were very poorly clad, and many of them had nothing but their great coats and shell jackets; some of them had no shirts, and all had no flannels, which were absolutely requisite at that season of the year. The patients who had no beds lay upon the floor, or in hammocks, those who were able to get into them. They had no palliasses at all. The witness used the word palliasse as synonymous with bed. They lay upon the bare floor in the clothes that they happened to have brought with them from the Crimea, or in their blankets. The convalescent hulk had about 500, and the *Bombay* about 100.

Mr. Macdonald did not know that the Turks made any difficulty in supplying hospital room: all he knew was, that the French appeared to have no difficulty. They built a hospital at the Seraglio Point, which is entirely occupied with the garden of the Sultan, who gave up his palaces and gardens for hospital purposes.

Mr. Macdonald saw the naval hospital at Therapia. It was not only grandly fitted up, but there was an air about the place of comfort and attention. The place had the advantage of treating wounded men chiefly; and the protracting effects of the sickness from which the army suffered were absent. The wounded sailors from the attack of the 17th October were there: they seemed to be well cared for. There were about 250, so that it was small as compared with that at Scutari. There was a difficulty about orderlies; the medical officer and chaplain grumbled about this, which shewed that they wished to have the system made better.

The witness was at Scutari after the arrival of the wounded from the battle of Inkermann, and the sick up to a late period in December. Many patients in the meantime were discharged as convalescent, and sent to Malta or to England, principally to Malta. The accommodation, which was barely sufficient before, became perfectly insufficient for the vast number of sick and wounded who were added to the others. After the arrival of the wounded from the battle of Inkermann, and the sick, up to the latest period that the witness was there, the hospitals were very much overcrowded; and the first classification or distinction between the wounded and the sick, which was the only classification attempted, was speedily broken down; they became intermixed; and one result was, that the wounded who were well before became liable to dysenteric disease. The hospitals had become more comfortable in some respects, because the ladies and the nurses had arrived during the interval, and had filled up those gaps in the machinery of the hospitals which had been deficient previously.

The purveying of the medical department did not deserve the name of it; from the very commencement, the greatest difficulties and faults existed in it. The first purveyor sent out to the East was a man upwards of seventy years of age (Mr. Ward, who died afterwards of cholera), who was exhausted with a walk between the general and the barrack hospital, only about a quarter of a mile. In addition to his own physical infirmity, he had only two assistants, and (the witness thought) three boys as clerks, who were expected to do all the purveying for the sick and wounded men. This was before Mr. Macdonald's arrival; when he arrived, Mr. Wreford was acting as purveyor-in-chief for all the hospitals in the Bosphorus. A separate arrangement existed, he believed, in the Crimea: but the chief medical establishment for the army, it was understood, was to be in the Bosphorus, and the chief arrangements were required to be made there for the purveying. With respect to supplies of such articles as sago, arrowroot, and the comforts usually supplied in hospitals, at different periods the supplies of those, as well as of the other articles, fell short; and the regulations of the service, or the mode in which those officers comprehended the proper discharge of their duties, appeared to exclude them from making purchases upon the spot; and the result was, that the supplies ran out, and they were obliged to wait for fresh supplies from home. Lord Stratford had full authority to order any supplies to be purchased in the bazaars at Constantinople, which could be procured there for the use of the sick, but the power was not used. During Mr. Macdonald's stay there, Lord Stratford paid one short visit to the hospitals. Mr. Macdonald

was not aware whether any representations were made to him with respect to the want of those articles in the hospitals, and the facility with which they could be supplied from the bazaars. He had no doubt that Lord Stratford was perfectly aware that supplies could be got from the bazaars.

Lady Stratford was in the habit of coming much to the hospitals, and was exceedingly attentive to the soldiers and officers, and she supplied occasionally, the witness believed, considerable quantities of things; but whether that was done formally upon a requisition made to the ambassador in the way contemplated by the Government or not, he did not know. He believed Dr. Menzies was made acquainted with the powers which were given to the ambassador to supply necessaries. He was told that Lord Stratford, on the one occasion when he visited the hospitals, had reminded Dr. Menzies that he had conveyed to him the authority given to him by the Government, and that he hoped it would be exercised and resorted to if anything was required. Yet, in his belief, while he was there, it never was resorted to. The witness believed the only consul in the East who took any active part in the preparation of the hospitals was Mr. Calvert, at the Dardanelles; he exerted himself, when the troops were at Gallipoli, in getting the hospital at Abydos fitted up, and at a very opportune moment it was afterwards used as a convalescent hospital.

The great wants in the system upon which the hospitals were worked were those of the purveyor's department, and the cooking, of which it formed a branch; for instance, a poor man being absolutely in want of so essential a necessary as a shirt, is not supplied by any authority in the hospital, but the requisition is made by the medical officer, and in the event of that requisition not being met by the purveyor, the custom was to go and take it to Miss Nightingale, who found some mode or other of supplying the requisition. They had no washing at all for five weeks after Mr. Macdonald's arrival in the East. There was no washing at any of the hospitals except at the barrack hospital, which was a dépôt also; and there being a number of soldiers' wives there, some of the soldiers very probably got some of their things washed by those women. The filthy clothes were put under the beds, crawling not only with vermin, but covered with the discharges from the wounds and maggots. They had no means for washing the floors till they were supplied by the witness. He believed that, when any particular patient was removed, the palliasse was taken away. The old clothes were all taken away to one particular room. This state of things existed while Miss Nightingale was there. As far as her limited means permitted her, she attended to, or obtained means to establish greater cleanliness and greater order. One of the first things she asked the witness to supply was two hundred hand-scrubbers and sacking for washing the floors, for which no means existed at that time. There was a capital laundry built by the Turks outside; but by some accident it had been filled with chopped straw, and it remained so filled almost until the period of the witness's departure.

The cooking at the hospitals was of the rudest kind. The diets were made out and taken down within a certain time. The issues were made at certain times by one man. In the barrack hospital alone, which at one period must have contained 2,500 patients, and perhaps more, one man had to make all the issues of the day. He commenced at ten o'clock, and it was a great feat to get through his work. The orderlies had to form a queue from seven to ten in the morning. Those who got their issues early, put them early in the cauldron, in which they were boiled to rags; those who got them in convenient time, had them tolerably well done; those who got them very late, of course had them sent up to the patients almost raw. Not unfrequently, the patients did not get their rations until a very late hour at night. Sometimes, if a man had been ordered a mutton chop for dinner at twelve o'clock, it was as late as eight o'clock before he got it.

The men arrived from the Crimea in the port at Constantinople in a most deplorable state. No adequate preparations whatever had been made on board the vessels used as hospital ships for their comfortable conveyance. They were put on board and laid upon the deck, sick and wounded; and, in some instances, at first without even medicines, and frequently without bed utensils, or the means of personal cleanliness; and in the majority of cases the stench on the passage became intolerable. An idea of their condition might be formed by imagining a hundred and fifty or two hundred dysenteric patients on the lower deck of the ships, perhaps with stormy weather and the portholes closed. They were often detained on board the vessels at Constantinople before they were landed; the minor cause of the detention being the fact of a swell setting in from

the south, but the larger cause for the detention being the overcrowded state of the hospitals, and the necessity for getting rid of some of the convalescents before room could be made for them. The witness believed there was little communication with the shore during that period; and the provision of medical attendance, which was considered sufficient on the way down, was also considered sufficient when they arrived there. He thought there was no inspection; for a short period Dr. Macregor was appointed inspector, but the appointment was cancelled. It was Mr. Macdonald's impression that no proper system of inspection and reporting was carried on, with reference to those ships that come down. It not unfrequently happened that the men were five hours, sometimes longer, from the time when they were disembarked from the side of the ship to the time when they were laid in their beds. Four hours was the average of the time consumed in the operation, during the first period after the witness's arrival. The distance of the hospitals from the shore was about five minutes' walk. The barrack hospital was about two hundred and fifty yards on a hill, above the water's edge; the general hospital was, perhaps, a quarter of a mile off. The men were carried on stretchers, and the scarcity of stretchers frequently was one of the causes of detention. The stretchers were also very uncomfortably constructed; they were made of wooden bars laid across, and not at all fit for wounded men to lie upon. Means of conveyance might no doubt have been provided easily at Constantinople. On wet days the men suffered very much. The landing occasionally took place when it was raining, and the men were carried with the rain falling upon them. The witness thought some improvement had taken place; the time during which the men, in a state of extreme exhaustion, were left from the moment of disembarkation till they were placed in their beds, had diminished. But the mode of sending down the sick was in this way: A fleet was sent down at a time, and it was not unfrequently the case that 1,000 or 1,500 sick were lying off the hospitals; and when this great influx came upon them, there had been no arrangements made by anticipation; no beds; no wards laid out; the whole hospital force was engaged in preparing hospital space for those men; and the result was, that when the landing came a great delay took place. Mr. Macdonald thought the authorities ought always to have had in reserve free hospital accommodation for 1,000 or 1,500 men; but no provision of that kind was ever made. There was frequently want of men and attendants to carry the patients from the vessels to the hospitals. The bearers were always changing; at one time they were Turkish soldiers, at another time our men were the bearers, and at another time they were porters. In Constantinople there were porters and persons of that description, who might have assisted in conveying the wounded.

The chief naval authority in the Bosphorus was Admiral Boxer: but he had no authority over the hospitals, only over the transports. He had the power of saying when a transport ship should sail from Balaklava, or when she should sail from Scutari, and what accommodation should be provided for the sick at either of those places, and whether the ships should land their sick, or where they should be landed; and he could refuse or supply necessities, such as bedding for the sick, as he liked. Medical comforts, medicines, and things entering into the actual treatment of disease, came from the medical department: food came from the Admiralty: so that two authorities had to be put into requisition before comforts could be supplied to the sick and wounded. For a long time after the army landed in the Crimea, and until quite recently, the dysenteric sick had been kept in the Crimea until the number had accumulated sufficiently to enable a vessel to go. They were then brought from the Crimea, and kept off Scutari until room could be made in the hospitals, all the time upon ship's rations—salt meat, biscuits, etc. The witness did not think Admiral Boxer ever visited the hospitals.

The sick and wounded men often arrived without their shoes; their shirts had either been cast away in utter disgust at their filthiness, or torn in shreds, or covered with dirt, and they were swarming with vermin; their trousers were torn in every direction; their coats were ragged where they retained them, and sometimes they came without coats at all, and sometimes without great coats. Some men who appeared in great coats wore those of their comrades who had died on the way down. They were put on board in the Crimea in that state, and sent down almost without necessary covering to Constantinople. Most of the men clung to their blankets; at that period sometimes, but very rarely, the men would complain, and it was very rarely that they did complain of anything, but when they did, perhaps a man had lost his blanket. This description applied to the majority

of the cases that arrived from the Crimea. There was no stock to supply them with on arrival; there were no cotton shirts and no flannel shirts, or in very small quantities, quite inadequate to supply the wants. Mr. Macdonald supplied clothing from the funds entrusted to him. If it had not been for that fund the men must have gone without. They were frequently without a change for a week, till the supply from the fund came. Ample supplies of clothing and comforts of all descriptions could have been bought and made; there is no want of labour in Turkey. Mr. Macdonald purchased a part of his own supplies there, and had portions of them made up.

Mr. Macdonald arrived in possession of considerable means, entrusted to him, to be applied in whatever manner his discretion might point out as best for the comfort and relief of the sick and wounded at Constantinople. The great majority of the things which he purchased were purchased in Constantinople; a few things, such as tea, were sent out; but he found, in practice, that it was useless to expect things from England, and that the emergencies of the hospitals could only be effectually supplied on the spot; and there was an ample market at Constantinople for that purpose. The article of tea was chiefly supplied by him to the hospitals in the Crimea. In the hospitals at Scutari, at different periods, there was a want of tea. There was also a want, which he supplied from the means at his disposal, of arrowroot, sago, sugar, port wine, Marsala, brandy, and a variety of other things. He supplied bedding; not to the hospitals at Scutari; articles of personal clothing he supplied at Scutari to a large extent. On one occasion he supplied a regiment proceeding to the Crimea with warm clothing, on receiving a written request to that effect from the surgeon of the regiment.

On his arrival at Constantinople, the witness had considered that there were three directions in which the fund he administered might be applied; viz., the hospitals on the Bosphorus, including those at Scutari, Koolalee, and Abydos, and the convalescent ships in the Golden Horn; second, the transports going home with convalescents; and thirdly, the Crimea. The system he adopted at Scutari was to ascertain from Miss Nightingale what things were wanted; for what things requisitions had not been met; and to forward them to her. They were issued by her on requisition from the medical officer. On board the convalescent ships, Mr. Macdonald supplied such things as were wanted to the commandant; and, with the assistance of the medical officers on board, they were distributed to the men. With reference to the transports, there was so much difficulty from uncertainty of the time of sailing and other circumstances, that Mr. Macdonald abandoned the attempt to supply them regularly; but not until he considered that sufficient had been done by the Government authorities to secure a regular supply of certain conspicuous wants on board those ships which had been previously neglected. With regard to the Crimea, as he was obliged to remain at Constantinople, he secured the good offices of the Rev. Mr. Hayward and Dr. McShane, of the *Carabur*, with some of the other chaplains of the army, to let him know what was wanted. As opportunities offered, he sent supplies to the Crimea: they were handed over to the medical officers, and administered to their patients.

In all these transactions, the witness required no written form to be filled up, nor any paper to be signed. He could not say that he had ever seen a dying man precluded from having any necessary because certain forms had to be gone through. To illustrate the mischief of forms, the witness alluded to the case of an officer who was taken ill of dysentery shortly after the charge at Balaklava. He was brought down to Balaklava in a state of extreme exhaustion. He was taken to the Bosphorus, in such a state of prostration that it was more convenient and easy to have him taken to an hotel than to the hospital: and, because he had not reported himself, or complied with the forms which were requisite, a few hours before his death he was placed under arrest by military authority. Every officer who comes from the Crimea must have the permission by which he came away invalidated backed by at least half a dozen signatures. Before an officer or a sick man could leave Constantinople to come home, a Board must sit upon him, which there was sometimes great difficulty in obtaining. With regard to medical necessities, the witness stated that the purveyor gave nothing out of his store without a requisition by a medical officer, which must be countersigned by a superior medical officer.

A portion of the supplies furnished from the fund were administered through Miss Nightingale, or the medical men, at the hospitals on the Bosphorus. The witness produced here a



summary of the quantities of the things supplied by the fund, and the nature of the things supplied, classified.

*Articles of Diet.* Tea, 20½ chests; arrowroot, about 23 cwt.; sago, 14 cwt. 2 grs. 14 lbs.; tapioca, 70 lbs.; sugar, 107½ cwt. 20 lbs.; preserved soups, meats, etc., 4,024 canisters, or about 80,000 portions; preserved vegetables, about 80,000 portions; port wine, 318½ dozen; Marsala, 2¼ quarter casks; brandy, 70 dozen and 200 gallons; fowls, 18 dozen; calf's foot jelly, a large quantity; bottled ale, 33 dozen; jams, 74 dozen; macaroni and vermicelli, 1½ cwt.; pearl barley, 1 cwt.; tamarinds, 2 cwt.; lemons, 366 dozen; biscuits, 12 canisters; butter, 2 kegs; isinglass, 11 lbs.; gum arabic, 5½ lbs.; figs, 12 drums; pepper, 15 packets; mustard, 20 bottles; vinegar, 20 bottles.

*Articles of Clothing, etc.* Cotton shirts, 713½ dozen; flannel, worsted, or woollen shirts, 932½ dozen; flannel drawers, 3,053 pair; socks and stockings, 10,542 pair; nightcaps, 311 dozen; comforters, 492½ dozen; gloves, 377 dozen; woollen sashes, 125 dozen; slippers, 1,865 pair; quilted gowns, 365; pocket handkerchiefs and neck ties, 1,100; Tartar stockings, 50; Tartar boots, 50; flannel in the piece, 927½ yards; calico, for sheets and shirts, 1,310 yards; soap, 1,840 lbs.; paper, 56½ reams; envelopes, 1,200 packets; ink, 144 bottles; steel pens, 30 boxes; sealing wax, 10 lbs.; wafers, 20 boxes; stationery, 1 box; postage stamps, £14:10; clay pipes, 7,044; tobacco, 1,347 lbs.

*Hospital Appliances.* Towels, 379½ dozen; quilts, 200; beds, 75; basins, 702; bowls, 99; blankets, 780; bed pans, 200; close stools, 20; kitchen stove, 1; tin drinking cups, 80; tin pails, 30; gamelles, 80; knives and forks, 64½ dozen; spoons, 62 dozen; cork-screws, 2; tea-spoons, 10 dozen; kettles, 6; scrubbing brushes, 27 dozen; dust pans, 3; sponges, 12; chloride of lime, 27 lbs.; sacking to wash floors, 3 pieces; shoe brushes, 22 sets; sad irons, 6 pair; starch, 3 cwt. and 33½ lbs.; washing tubs, 3; wall lamps, 100; olive oil, 3 cwt.; oiled cloth, 130 yards; carpet mats, 20 pieces; mosquito muslin, 2 pieces; marking ink, 4 bottles; cotton tape, 3 pieces; needles, 12 boxes; American clocks, 12; castor oil, 2½ cwt.; millboard, 150 sheets; charcoal, 1 ton 15½ cwt.; calico for towelling, 4 pieces; washing house, £60; officers' kitchen, £55:18:1; pecuniary aid, £80.

The witness left Constantinople for the Crimea, in the *Brandon*, on the 1st of February, and arrived on the 4th. He went to the camp when he arrived at Balaklava. His visit to the "front" was only on two successive days; he went to some part of the camp during the five days he remained in the Crimea. His object in going to the Crimea was chiefly to ascertain, by a personal visit, the application of the large supplies of things which he had forwarded thither during the previous three months; nearly four months. He found the hospitals in the camp very much improved, from what he had heard of the state in which they had been previously. At Balaklava he found that wooden sheds had been constructed, which were well adapted for hospitals, and which were tolerably well ventilated, and in which the men seemed to be pretty comfortable. There was no reason to complain at that time of the general condition of the hospitals. But with reference to purveying or the supplies of medicines, sometimes there was a want of port wine; sometimes there was a want of arrowroot; and sometimes there was a want of opium, though the finest market for it in the world was at Constantinople. Mr. Macdonald had occasion to supply some of those things. The rations for the troops being deficient in variety, it was to that fact that the scorbutic character of their diseases was ascribed by the medical men, and therefore preserved vegetables and preserved meats and soups, and things of that kind, which give a change of diet, and which are used in the navy for the same purpose, were very valuable. There was a total absence of those things.

The harbour at Balaklava was frightfully filthy; so much so, that the water, which ought to have been of a dark colour, like the rest of the Euxine, was a sort of bright green, mixed with grey, and stunk like a drain; in fact, the harbour was a great cesspool, a great sewer. This was in February. He counted in the harbour about sixty fine transport steamers. He had no doubt that if any efforts had been made on the part of the authorities to obtain the assistance of the crews of those steamers, they could have done something to remove the impurities from the port. The danger from the harbour is more one which lies in the future than in the actual present state of things; and from the state of the whole of Balaklava, Mr. Macdonald thought it exceedingly likely to produce plague in the spring.

The Turkish burying-ground at Balaklava was immediately on the slope of the hill, and the hill being very bare, and the rock coming up almost on the surface, the sun would strike upon it very powerfully as soon as it acquired strength, and the

amount of earth thrown over the bodies of the Turks was very slight indeed. The burying-grounds lie along the whole of the road; all along the camp there were burial-grounds. He observed the offensive effluvia from those burying-grounds.

The witness returned from the Crimea to Scutari on the 11th, and remained till the 19th of February. He found a marked improvement in the state of the hospitals. Dr. Cumming had become inspector-general, and, for the first time, the hospitals had a head. And the means of transport also had been improved by vessels having been fitted up for the conveyance of the sick and wounded, especially for the conveyance of the sick; four steamers had been fitted up; and hospitals had been opened at Smyrna, at Rhodes, and at other places; and large supplies had come to hand, which enabled them to complete each bed in itself, and each ward in itself, and to supply that arrangement which ought to have been done at the outset; they had the materials for starting fresh and fair. And a great many of the deplorable cases of men who had been invalidated, past the hope of immediate recovery, had been removed to this country, so as to make room in the hospitals. The French hospitals were almost as good as if they had been hospitals opened in Paris or in London. Those hospitals had been prepared before the arrival of the French troops at Constantinople. Before the arrival of our army, no adequate arrangements had been made; in fact, the system of the medical department of the army is entirely founded upon the idea of regimental hospitals, and, therefore, when the question arose of forming a general hospital, the whole subject had to be thought out, and they were like persons commencing some new undertaking in which they had to find their way. Notwithstanding all the sufferings which our poor men had undergone there, they were always patient, and did everything they could themselves to overcome the difficulties of their position.

The witness thought that the immediate duty, with reference to all medical stores and medical comfort, and all matters relating to the furnishing of the hospitals and clothing of the men all belonged to the purveyor's department. He holds about the same relative position as the commissary to the army. Opium being a medicine, comes into the apothecaries' department, at the head of which, at Scutari, was another very old officer. The chief medical officer, when Mr. Macdonald was there, was Dr. Anderson. He was a middle-aged man. There was the medical staff, the apothecary, and the purveyor. The apothecary has to supply the medicines, and the purveyor has to supply the food and provisions and comforts for the hospital. Mr. Macdonald did not think the medical inspector has authority over them, to compel them to provide those things. He decidedly ascribed the whole mismanagement of the hospitals to the want of organisation under a single head.

Dr. Cumming came out as one of the commission of inquiry; he also came out, it was understood, as the inspector-general; but the appointment of inspector-general was postponed and hung fire, and during the whole of those four months it was known that a superior authority had been sent out, but the authority was not exercised. Dr. Menzies came home on the ground of bad health, so that he was not superseded. He left at either the end of December or in January, the witness had no doubt. Dr. Menzies was a very excellent medical man; and that in point of mere professional qualification he well deserved the position he occupied. In stating there was no head, the witness meant that there was no man there who would take upon himself the responsibility of actually doing what was required.

The hospitals at Scutari had many heads in succession. First there was Dr. Menzies; then Dr. Cumming acted under orders supposed to be received from Lord Raglan, until he went to the Crimea to institute his inquiries with the Commission there; Dr. Forrest then came invalided from the Crimea, and fell ill; then Dr. Cruickshank, who was a first-class surgeon, came; then Dr. Lawson came down; and finally Dr. Cumming assumed his office as Inspector-General. The chief military authority in the hospital on Mr. Macdonald's arrival was Major Sillery; he was shortly afterwards succeeded by Lord William Paulet.

The system pursued by the French Government was to establish stocks of every thing that was wanted; their supplies never ran out; and when their stocks were low, they were immediately reinforced. The garrison system throughout France has greatly extended their knowledge in the formation of general hospitals. While on service they know exactly what to do; every detail connected with their general hospitals is carefully thought out and organised; and they have no difficulty in knowing what is required for the formation of establishments of the kind. Their orderly system especially is admirable;

their head orderlies are regularly trained, and under them are placed steady men of good character, who get extra pay; and so great is the importance attached to good orderlies, that they have an officers' mess; they are placed under the intendant, who has the furnishing of all the hospitals; they are removed from the control of the commander-in-chief. The head orderlies were military men; but the witness heard that in the capacity which they exercise they were considered civilians.

The apothecary's department at Scutari was decidedly inefficient. At first, after the witness's arrival, it frequently occurred to him, to hear of prescriptions being taken to be made up and there being nobody there to make them up; and later he had heard of such wants as opium. He had to supply some quantity of castor oil in the room of that which went down in the *Prince*. He did not know where it was used, or whether it was intended for the hospitals; it might have been intended for the hospitals in the Crimea. After the death of Mr. Read, who was the apothecary, and who was succeeded by Mr. Macintosh, a very old man, no inventory was taken of the medicines in store, and nothing was known of what was in store; and when the want of opium in the Crimea was heard of at Scutari, upon an investigation it turned out there were only five pounds of opium in the store at Scutari. He could not say how the French are supplied with medicines, but, so far as he could judge, their system was very complete; in their laboratory they had marked up and arranged along the walls the different places to which particular sections of the stores belonged, according to the stations of their hospitals. The tendency appeared to be to increase the general hospital at Balaklava, and so get over the difficulty of transit, and economise the medical staff. The first general hospital established there was a small building which had been used as a school, and the rooms in it were full of fever atmosphere when Mr. Macdonald was there; but the other hospitals round it were merely wooden sheds, the ordinary sheds which had been sent out for the troops, and which, being constructed with some little care, made capital hospitals. The amount of accommodation there for the sick and wounded when he was at Balaklava, was about 300; it had risen from 150 to 300, and arrangements were in progress for raising the number to about 400. The witness declined to give an opinion as to whether there was a sufficient medical staff at Balaklava. At Scutari, the want of medical men varied at different periods; those who were brought out by the *Vectis* more than supplied the deficiency; but as the sick increased, and some of them were draughted off to the Crimea, or became invalided, others were not appointed, and the want was most inadequately supplied from home by boys with no experience, who were sent out to learn their profession. The chief want felt was of superior officers of experience and standing in the service.

Miss Nightingale arrived two days before Mr. Macdonald. He knew that only one medical officer having the control of a division at first used much of her supplies, although those supplies could not be obtained from the purveying department. He would say that the nurses were not used to the extent to which they might have been at first.

[To be continued.]

**PATHOLOGICAL COMMISSION OF THE ARMY OF THE EAST.** Dr. Aitkin, of Glasgow, and Dr. Doyle, of Dublin, have been sent out to the East, as assistants in the Pathological Commission of which Dr. Lyons is the head. The Commission extends over five months, but is to be prolonged if thought desirable.

**SMYRNA HOSPITAL.** The Staff have formed themselves into a Medico-Chirurgical Society. The meetings will of course be solely devoted to practical subjects; and their usefulness in rapidly diffusing the knowledge obtained by individual investigation cannot be overrated. It would be an excellent plan if government would provide for the printing of the reports of their proceedings on the spot, and their immediate transmission to other hospitals, so that the experience obtained in one might be at once made available in all. The organisation of a systematic plan of note-taking will no doubt form one of the objects of the above Society.

**ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.** The Medical Committee have determined greatly to diminish the number of the "prizes," and to devote the money thus saved to the foundation of scholarships. These latter are to be given to third year students. They will have rooms and commons found them, and be paid from sixty to eighty pounds per annum. They will be required to record cases in the ward-books, each scholar having a certain department of the hospital allotted to him for that purpose.

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE NAVY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.** In the room of Sir Wm. Burnett (resigned), Sir John Liddell has been appointed. Sir John Liddell has for some time past had the charge of Greenwich Hospital. We trust that he is a meritorious officer, and that he will carry out the sweeping reforms in the service which are so urgently demanded. We hear that Sir John Richardson's known independence of character and supposed dislike to work in chains caused him, though the senior candidate, to be set aside by government. Let us hope that the days of stolid routine and red-tapery placement are numbered.

**MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY, DISPENSARY, LUNATIC HOSPITAL, OR ASYLUM.** A Special General Board was held on the 26th April, to elect two Dispensary Surgeons. Present, 768 trustees. J. C. HARTER, Esq., in the Chair.

Letters were read from Mr. Edward Lund, Mr. Frederick Ashton Heath, Mr. Thomas Windsor, Mr. Archibald P. Childs, and Mr. George Bowring, offering themselves as candidates for the office of dispensary surgeons. The following report of the medical committee was read:

"Manchester Royal Infirmary, Medical Committee Special Consultation, 19th April, 1855.

"M. A. E. WILKINSON, Esq., M.D., Chairman. The diplomas of Messrs. Lund, Heath, Windsor, Childs, and Bowring, have been examined by the medical committee, who find all of them eligible for the office of dispensary surgeon, in accordance with the rule."

Mr. Lund was proposed by Sir John Potter; seconded by Wm. Fairbairn, Esq. Mr. Heath was proposed by Mr. Alderman Watkins; seconded by John Sharp, Esq. Mr. Windsor was proposed by Thomas Broadbent, Esq.; seconded by Thomas Bright, Esq. Mr. Childs was proposed by Mr. Alderman Shuttleworth; seconded by Nicholas Heald, Esq. Mr. Bowring was proposed by Wm. Entwisle, Esq.; seconded by Nathan Worthington, Esq.

A ballot then ensued, and the following result was reported by the scrutineers:

We, the undersigned, declare the following to be the final state of the poll:

Mr. Heath.....	proxies 57 ..	votes 638 ..	total 695
Mr. Lund .....	do. 33 ..	do. 372 ..	do. 405
Mr. Childs.....	do. 9 ..	do. 233 ..	do. 242
Mr. Windsor ....	do. 7 ..	do. 111 ..	do. 118
Mr. Bowring ....	do. 7 ..	do. 84 ..	do. 91

113	1438	1551
JOHN FERNLEY,	Scrutineers on behalf	
ERNEST REUSS,	of the Board.	

Mr. Heath and Mr. Lund were then declared by the Chairman to be duly elected.

**HONOURS TO FRENCH MEDICAL MEN IN TURKEY.** The Sultan of Turkey has conferred the decoration of the order of Medjidie (second class) on M. Michel Lévy, inspector-general of the health of the army in the East; that of the fourth class, on M. Perrier, chief of the ambulance department; and that of the fifth class on M. Busschaert, *aide major*. By a decree of the Emperor Louis Napoleon, dated March 10, the above-mentioned officers have received permission to wear the insignia of the orders conferred on them.

**ARSENIC SMOKED WITH TOBACCO.** M. de Montigny, French consul in China, states that the northern Chinese mix arsenic with tobacco, and smoke it in their small pipes. This custom is peculiar to the inhabitants of Ho-Nou, Het-Chouen, and Chou-Tou. The vicars-apostolic of Mantchouria and Circa, who have for a long time lived at Seo-Tou, have informed M. de Montigny that the inhabitants of that vast region smoke as a delicacy the alliaceous vapour of the pernicious drug. The use of arseniated tobacco is so extensive in that region, that it is impossible to procure pure tobacco; those who wish for this are obliged to procure it from the central provinces. The above-mentioned ecclesiastics stated that the arsenic smokers were in good condition; that their lungs acted like smith's bellows; and that they were as red as cherubs. The southern Chinese alone have the yellow colour which is ascribed to the whole race. (*Gazette Médicale de Paris*, March 24.)

**BIRMINGHAM GAOL AND MR. BLOUNT.** At the late Warwick Assizes, the grand jury found true bills against Lieut. Austin and Mr. Blount, the governor and surgeon of the Birmingham Borrough Gaol, for cruelty to the prisoners. The trials, unless removed to the Court of Queen's Bench, will take place at the summer assizes. [In the ASSOCIATION MEDICAL JOURNAL of August 4th, 1854, we noticed this case. EDITOR.]